



Shutterbug Times

April 2008

General Meeting— 4th Monday monthly

Volume 73, Issue 04

Executive Committee

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Shauna Kearns
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Refreshments will be provided by the following:

March..... Dave Simmerman
April..... Terry Liberty
May..... Jerry Weeks
June..... Gene & Linda Pardee

March General Meeting

By Vice President, Allen Raphael

Hello all!

The up coming meeting still has a few more spots left for members sharing. For the March themed night, we will have a mixing up of slides from Bob Kletsch, a video from Dottie Hall, and a digital presentation from Stacie Singleton and Gene Pardee. This will take care of everyone who has signed up for the March meeting, and the few people left who wanted to share at the January meeting (that was canceled due to the snow). Thank you everyone who has signed up so far, I am looking forward to seeing what everyone has to share.

There will also be a presentation by the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs Vision Team, headed by Sunny Waster.. Our NWCCC Vision Team is eager to share our Mission and ideas with all the member clubs in a series of visits to individual clubs, so we can find out just what club members want and strengthen our support system to foster and sustain this interest.. **PLEASE PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR.**

IMPORTANT NOTE **2008 Dues**

A reminder to all camera club members...It's time to pay dues for 2008. I know the January meeting was cancelled due to snow and some of you may have intended to pay that night. Dues are \$20 for singles and \$35 for couples. You can bring me your dues at the next general meeting or you can mail them to the **new club PO Box** as follows:

Olympia Camera Club
PO Box 13333
Olympia, WA 98508-3333

Thank you!, Shauna Kearns, Treasurer

"A great photograph is a full expression of what one feels about what is being photographed in the deepest sense, and is thereby a true expression of what one feels about life and its entirety." — *Ansell Adams*

President's Corner
by Dave Simmerman & Webmaster

Will April showers bring May flowers photo ops?

By Dave Simmerman, OCC President

Spring is just around the corner and that means rain. Well, here in the northwest that just means more rain and we should be use to that by now. Don't let that discourage you from getting out and taking some great photographs! They do make rain gear for you and your camera, which works quite well. Now I'm not saying get out there during a downpour, but you could if you wanted too, and consider doing some macro work. I can hear it now, "But I don't have a macro lens!" Most camera and lens combinations have some sort of close-up capabilities and there are ways to achieve the same results as a true macro lens. For you SLR users, consider using extension tubes (costs a whole lot less than a new macro lens) or close-up lens that can be attached to the front of your existing lens. Some pro-consumer cameras have close-up lens attachments as well. Also consider using a white umbrella to shield your subject and allow a soft diffused light to enter.

So what type of subjects work well during rain, you ask! What immediately comes to mind is the first flowers of spring with rain drops adorning them, spider webs with drops of dew, or the reflections that are created in the rain puddles. You can also have a beautiful model peeking out from behind an umbrella while walking in the rain, (Don't forget about the rain gear I mentioned earlier) Kids in rubber galoshes stomping in the puddles, or rainbows that come out after the storm. For you nature people who like grand scenes, you can photograph an approaching storm with all the rolling thunder clouds and lightning strikes. Just remember, be safe out there when dealing with adverse conditions and I can tell you first hand that lightning is not pleasant when hit. So get out there and have some safe photographic fun this spring.

Unique Friendships can be Found at the End of a Lens!
OCC President

IMPORTANT UPDATE TO THE FIELD TRIP DATES

Let's go Paint them Hills

by Dave Simmerman

Come join the OCC as we Paint the Hills of Oregon, uh er um, I meant to say "the Painted Hills of Oregon!" On May 2nd through the 4th we will trek to the John Day Fossil Beds and Painted Hills, near Mitchell, Oregon. This 3 day adventure will entail sunrises, sunsets, and hopefully some wildflowers coming in to bloom. There are actually 3 areas we will visit during this fabulous excursion. First we hit the Painted Hills for early morning light (I hope it rains the night before) and watch the colors explode with vibrant greens, reds, and whites. But we must photograph it during a sunset, which is said to be the best time to take images of it. Second we visit the Sheep Rock fossil beds where we will see Cathedral Rock, Picture Gorge, and the Valley of Fire. Third is the Clarno Unit, which I've never been too, to walk and photograph the Trail of the Fossils.

As you can see, we will have a full and fun time there. If you are interested in attending please email me at dasimmerman@comcast.net or let me know at one of the meetings. When I know how many people are attending, I can make accommodation arrangements in Mitchell or other nearby towns and further define the itinerary.

Let's go have some fun!

Olympia Camera Club Board Minutes

By Chris Weinrich

March 5, 2008, Mekong Restaurant

Meeting called to order by President Dave Simmerman at 6:25 p.m.

Present were: President Dave Simmerman, Vice President Allen Raphael, Secretary Chris Weinreich, Treasurer Shauna Kearns, Wes & Cornelia Kirkpatrick, Frank & Terri Townsend, Terry & Bonnie Liberty, John West and Marie Browning.

Minutes were approved as appeared in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Report for January 2008

Checking Beg. Bal \$1326.30

Deposits

Dues \$395.91

Expenses

PO box rental \$58.00

Room rental \$39.00

Confer. Mgmt)

Ending Balance \$1625.21

Savings Beg. Bal 1350.73

Interest \$1.44

Savings Ending Balance . \$1352.17

Shauna reported that we now have 101 members, but several of them have not paid their dues. A discussion followed on how best to handle the over do dues. Ultimately it was decided to send a reminder letter to those who were more than two months in arrears

April general meeting: Allen said that Steve Vento will talk on portraits and lighting.

Digital Group meeting: Marie said that this month's topic will be putting text with pictures.

Frank announced that the Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest will be holding their meeting at South Puget Sound Community College. People can join NPPNW at the meeting -- \$10 per person and \$15 per couple. The meeting will have a judging of prints but not slides. Frank asked for volunteers to help with the meeting.

Trips: Dave reminded people of the trip to the Painted Hills in Oregon April 25 - 27. He said that he may be planning a trip the upper end of Lake Chelan (Stehekin) for later this spring.

Wes said that the Palouse trip is booked up.

Web site: The site had 3900 visits in February, up 300 from January, Dave said. The Gallery was the most popular followed by the Photo Talk forum. In the past year the site has had 22,000 visits.

Capital Land Trust: Terry reported that the Capital Land Trust breakfast was a great success and that the Land Trust is looking for photos, especially of wild life. Terry said the Trust used he photos in a variety of ways -- plaques to brochures.

NW Council of Camera Clubs: Wes said the council will have its monthly meeting here in Olympia March 8th at the Olympia Senior Center. He also reported that the organizing for annual Northwest Photography Conference is going well. (The annual conference is Sept. 26 thru the morning of Sept. 28.)

Because of the efforts of Dave and Wes the Council has received sponsorships worth \$7000. Dave contacted Nikon and that company has agreed to underwrite the cost of the main conference speaker -- Moose Peterson. Wes garnered an addition \$3500 from Hewlett-Packard and Canon will sponsor another speaker. Don Paulson has agreed to do a workshop on the art of making great photos and Paul Levy will do one on Photoshop CS3.

More Web Site: Because the Club is hosting the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs annual meeting, Dave asked for board approval to use part of the club's web site for annual meeting registration for which the Club is responsible. Frank made the motion to use the Club's site, Terry seconded, and the motion was passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10

OLYMPIA CAMERA CLUB NEW LOGO

Did you notice the logo on the front?

This is now the Olympia Camera Club official logo.

There was a contest held for all members to submit their ideas for a new logo. Thanks to Frank Townsend, Tom Blankenship, Dave Simmerman, Gene Busby and Richard March there were about 20 different versions submitted.

At our last General Meeting a vote was held and the one you see was selected.

A Thank You and congratulations go to Tom Blankenship for his winning entry and the proud winner of \$100.00.

NPPNW RETURNS TO OLYMPIA

by Frank Townsend

The Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest are retuning to South Puget Sound Community College on April 5 for their spring meeting. The guest speaker for the event will be Gary Braash, a highly published nature photographer who has been widely recognized with prestigious awards. His morning presentation is entitled "Nature and Environmental Photography" and his afternoon presentation will be "A World Wide Project in Environmental Photography". Doors open at 8:30 AM with the program starting at 10.

The Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest is a club in its loosest sense meeting twice a year. Dues are paid at the meeting and are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Check out their website at www.nppnw.org for registration forms. In addition to the speaker there is an informal competition of digital projected images as well as a print competition. Check out the web site for more information. There will be an informal round table conversation at the Phoenix Inn in downtown Olympia on Friday night, April 4 beginning at 7:30 PM. As this is being held in our town and arranged for by our membership we will help out during the day on Saturday. This usually involves directing traffic and setting up and taking down tables and chairs. If you've never attended an NPPNW meeting this is a good one to begin with.

For more information or to volunteer email me at fmat3200@cs.com or phone 705-1349.

Download some fancy Photoshop brushes to add some interest to boring skies

By William Sawalich

Submitted by Frank Townsend

Sunshine on my shoulders makes me happy. I have to confess, though, that I get a little kick out of clouds, too. While it may be more fun to shoot outside on a nice, bright, sunny day under a cloudless sky, your photographs aren't likely to be as interesting as they might be with some cloud cover. And I'm not even talking about the quality of the light. (FYI: A lightly overcast day is often best for photography, because the shadows are softer and the light is generally less harsh.) Forget about the light for a moment: let's just talk about the design elements in a photo. Whether it's a landscape or an architectural shot or just a picture of your friends at the beach, a plain blue sky can sometimes be a bit too boring as a background. Thankfully you can fix this in the computer—provided you're a gifted artist who can create realistic clouds with a paintbrush. There's one other method for those of us less painterly inclined: cloud-shaped Photoshop brushes. You may have noticed a variety of odd-shaped paintbrush nibs included in your brushes palette: stars, squiggles, leaves, bugs... Well you can get cloud-shaped brushes, too—Sirius, cumulus, Stradivarius, whatever. There are lots of them available online, and with a little bit of tweaking of size and opacity, your clouds can look as realistic as if they were actually in the sky when you were shooting. The crucial questions: Where do you find these brushes, and how much are they? Luckily a search of the phrase "Photoshop cloud brushes" will turn up countless results for the kind souls who have taken the time to create these tools and uploaded them for your use, usually free of charge. So when the weather doesn't cooperate (by, effectively, cooperating), you can fix things easily with a custom cloud brush.

Olympia Camera Club has an address now

If you are sending in your dues, which are due now, or other correspondence you can now send it to the following address and it is picked up almost daily.

**Olympia Camera Club
PO Box 13333
Olympia, WA 98508-3333**

Opportunity of the year!

A Chance for Fame and Fortune!

Make your mother proud, impress your friends, confound your enemies!

Volunteer today!

The Club needs 6 volunteers to staff the club's booth at the Puyallup Fair Photo show, on Thursday, Sept. 11. The booth will show case the club, tell the world what we're about and sign up new members. It needs to be staffed from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in two hour shifts. Volunteers will get free fair admission and parking and the undying gratitude of the Club.

And the fair is also looking for judges for the Washington Photographers Competition. The judging will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, August 21st. They would like to get judges from several different clubs.

If you are interested in either staffing the booth or judging, please call or e-mail me, Chris Weinreich, 352.8183 or christianweinreich@reachone.com

Zip Lock Bowl Cover Tip

By Lynnette Peizer

I recently received a great photo tip from a fellow photographer who lives in Bloomington, Indiana. He has also been to the waterfalls in the Columbia River Gorge and knows what kind of mist and moisture problems we face here in the Pacific Northwest. When you find yourself in a situation with sea spray or moisture from waterfalls blowing toward your lens, Ziploc bowl covers (the ones with the plastic band to hold them on) come in handy. Just place one over your lens. Compose your shot through the transparent cover and when you are ready, pull off the cover, click the shutter, and immediately after the shutter closes, put it back on your lens. Shower caps will also do the job.

A big thanks to Jeff Hammond of Hammond Photography for that tip. <http://www.jghphoto.com>
Thanks Jeff!

Thank You to Kits Camera Manager - Mike Estes

Olympia Camera Club would like to thank Mike Estes, Manager of the West Side Kits Camera for coordinating with his Corporate office and inviting Tia Leonard, Kits Camera Sales Associate to our General Meeting in March and giving a very informative talk on what Kits has to offer us as photographers in the way of up and coming printing features and they also have a full store of camera equipment and supplies.

When shopping at the West Side store, show your Olympia Camera Club Membership Club Card and they also gave everyone a discount on certain items. They also passed out discount coupons on various purchases at Kits as well.

Again Mike and Tia Thank you very much.

Olympia Camera Club

GHNWR - Shorebirds Festival - April 27-29

From Gray's Harbor Nat'l Wildlife Refuge website:

"FROM LATE APRIL through early May, hundreds of thousands of shorebirds concentrate on the muddy tide flats of Grays Harbor Estuary on the Washington Coast. Grays Harbor Estuary is one of four major staging areas for shorebirds in North America and one of the largest concentrations of shorebirds on the west coast, south of Alaska. Shorebirds gather here in the spring to feed, store up fat reserves, and rest for the non-stop flight to their northern breeding grounds.

These Arctic-bound shorebirds, coming from as far south as Argentina, are among the world's greatest migrants; many travel over 15,000 miles round trip. From June through October the shorebirds return to the estuary in lesser concentrations on their way south during the longer fall migration period. Thousands of shorebirds, primarily dunlin, stay for the winter. "

GHNWR Events Page:

www.fws.gov/graysharbor/events.html

Link to Shorebird Festival:

www.shorebirdfestival.com/

Membership Benefits with Lensrentals.com!!!

I would like to announce a special offer to members of NWPhotographers.net! I have come to an agreement with Lensrentals.com which provides our members with extended rental offers effective immediately.

What this means to you as a member of NWPhotographers.net is that when you choose to rent a piece of equipment from Lensrentals.com, you will be granted additional days for the price of the standard rental period. For instance, say you wish to rent a lens for a week, as a member, for the weekly rate, you will get a 10 day rental which could allow you to have the lens for 2 weekends! Another example is if you should choose to rent for 2 weeks, you will be given an extra week at no additional charge.

For additional details about this gracious offer from Lensrentals.com, please visit our Main Forum (membership required). Here is a link:
www.nwphotographers.net/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4093

If you have questions about this opportunity, please contact me using the Email admin link or send me a PM! For questions about equipment and rental terms, please contact the kind folks at Lensrentals.com.

Also, please be sure to visit Lensrentals.com to see the variety of equipment that they have to offer. Click the graphic below to be linked to Lensrentals.com!!!





April 2008

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.OLYMPIACAMERA CLUB.COM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 General Mtg. Capitol High School— POD "A" 6:30pm	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	01	02 Business Mtg Mekong Rest. 125 Colum- bia Olympia, WA	03	04	05
06	07	08 Digital Mtg. Capitol High School— POD "A" 6:30pm	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 General Mtg. Capitol High School— POD "A" 6:30pm	29	30	01	02 The Painted Hills of Oregon Field Trip	03 The Painted Hills of Oregon Field Trip

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